

AMERICAN MUSICIANS WIN TWO GOLD MEDALS IN MOSCOW
(INSERTS IN TAPE LIBRARY)

ANNCR: TWO AMERICANS HAVE JUST WON THE MOST COVETED AND PRESTIGIOUS MUSIC AWARD-- THE GOLD MEDAL -- FOR THEIR PERFORMANCES AT THE TCHAIKOVSKY INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION IN MOSCOW. FIRST CAME THE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT A THIRTY-YEAR-OLD CELLIST, NAMED NATHANIEL ROSEN, HAD WON THE FIRST PRIZE IN THE CELLO CONTEST. THE NEXT DAY CAME NEWS THAT TWENTY-EIGHT-YEAR-OLD ELMAR OLIVEIRA HAD WON THE TOP VIOLIN AWARD. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT ANY AMERICAN HAD WON IN A STRING MUSIC CATEGORY. NOW, HERE WITH THE DETAILS IS VOA REPORTER, _____.

VOICE: TO CLASSICAL MUSICIANS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, THE TCHAIKOVSKY COMPETITIONS ARE SPECIAL-- THEY ARE AS IMPORTANT AS THE OLYMPICS ARE TO SPORTS FANS. THEY BEGAN IN 1958, IN MOSCOW. SINCE THEN, THEY HAVE BEEN HELD THERE EVERY FOUR YEARS. AT THE FIRST CONTEST, THEN LIMITED TO PIANISTS, THE AMERICAN PIANIST, VAN CLIBURN WALKED AWAY WITH THE TOP GOLD MEDAL AWARD. CLIBURN'S VICTORY IN MOSCOW TWENTY YEARS AGO WAS SOMETHING OF A MAJOR CULTURAL BREAKTHROUGH AND INDICATED A TRUE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION AMONG THE WORLD'S MUSICAL ARTISTS.

(BEGIN OPT) THAT SUMMER, WHEN CLIBURN RETURNED FROM THE SOVIET UNION, NEW YORKERS HONORED THE APPEALING LANKY TEXAN WITH A PARADE DOWN FIFTH AVENUE, BEDECKED WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS OF CONFETTI AND TICKER TAPE SCATTERED OVER HIS OPEN-TOP CAR.

THE RECEPTION FOR THIS YEAR'S PRIZE-WINNING MUSICIANS MAY NOT BE AS SPECTACULAR AS IT WAS FOR VAN CLIBURN, BUT AMERICANS ARE CERTAINLY REACTING GLEEFULLY, WITH PRIDE, AND, A REALIZATION THAT MODERN-DAY AMERICA IS PRODUCING SOME GREAT MUSICAL TALENT. (END OPT)

FOR GOLD MEDALLIST, CELLIST NATHANIEL ROSEN, WHO SERVES AS PRINCIPAL CELLIST OF THE PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY, IT WAS THE SECOND TIME AROUND. ON A PREVIOUS OCCASION, IN 1966, AT AGE SEVENTEEN, NATHANIEL ROSEN HAD GONE TO MOSCOW TO COMPETE IN AN EARLIER COMPETITION. MR. ROSEN VIED WITH FIFTY-ONE OTHER CELLISTS, FROM TWENTY COUNTRIES. TWELVE REACHED THE FINALS AND EACH HAD TO PERFORM THE DIFFICULT, LYRICAL, TCHAIKOVSKY "VARIATIONS ON A ROCOCO THEME," FROM WHICH WE NOW HEAR A BRIEF EXCERPT.

TAPE: CUT 1 - VARIATIONS ON A ROCOCO THEME: BRIEF TAG :23

VOICE: AFTER NATHANIEL ROSEN'S FINAL ROUND PERFORMANCE OF THE TCHAIKOVSKY "VARIATIONS," PEOPLE IN THE MOSCOW HALL -- SOPHISTICATED MUSIC-LOVERS ALL, JUMPED TO THEIR FEET WITH CHEERS AND SHOUTS OF "BRAVO". THE CELLIST, HIMSELF, FELT THAT HE HAD DONE A GOOD JOB, BUT HE WAS ALSO WELL-PREPARED. IN 1977, HE HAD BEEN THE WINNING RECIPIENT OF THE VERY DEMANDING NEW YORK NAUMBERG COMPETITION. THE PREVIOUS YEAR, AFTER ROSEN'S NEW YORK DEBUT-RECITAL, CRITIC DONAL HENAHAN SAID IN A NEW YORK TIMES REVIEW: "NATHANIEL ROSEN IS A VIRTUOSO CELLIST, OF THE SORT AUDIENCES LOVE TO IDOLIZE AND OTHER CELLISTS GATHER AROUND TO HEAR IN MINGLED APPRECIATION AND ENVY."

OBVIOUSLY MANY HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED WITH NATHANIEL ROSEN'S TALENTS. IN PITTSBURGH, WHERE ROSEN LEADS THE CELLO SECTION OF THE ORCHESTRA, THE PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY'S ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR, DONALD JOHANOS (FORMER CONDUCTOR OF THE DALLAS SYMPHONY) MADE THESE REMARKS ABOUT THE NEW FIRST PRIZE WINNER OF THE TCHAIKOVSKY COMPETITIONS.

TAPE: CUT 2 (DONALD JOHANOS) (BEEPER)

'I FIND HIM A DELIGHTFUL PERSON FIRST OF ALL. OF COURSE IT TAKES MORE THAN A FINE CELLIST TO BE A SECTION PRINCIPAL IN AN ORCHESTRA. AND HE HAS VERY FINE LEADERSHIP QUALITIES. HE HAS THE KIND OF MUSICALITY THAT CATCHES FIRE AND CATCHES THE SECTION BEHIND HIM ON FIRE. I THINK HE'S JUST BEEN MARVELOUS IN HIS POSITION HERE. I WAS THRILLED TO KNOW THAT HE DID SO WELL... THAT HE'S BEEN RECOGNIZED BY OTHERS. CERTAINLY WE'VE KNOWN HIS ABILITY AND ITS ALWAYS GRATIFYING TO KNOW THAT HIS TALENTS HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED."

VOICE: (OPT) NATHANIEL ROSEN HAS BEEN PLAYING CELLO FOR TWENTY-FIVE OF HIS THIRTY YEARS. HIS FATHER, A KEEN AMATEUR VIOLINIST, CONTINUALLY ENCOURAGED HIM. IN FACT, HIS FATHER WAS IN MOSCOW DURING THE RECENT EVENT, AND PROUDLY WITNESSED HIS SON'S BIG MOMENT. YET, PERHAPS THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PERSON IN ROSEN'S LIFE, WAS HIS TEACHER, THE LATE CONCERT CELLIST, GREGOR PIATIGORSKY, WITH WHOM HE STUDIED FROM 1962 TO 1972. FOR SEVERAL YEARS NATHANIEL ROSEN SERVED AS PIATIGORSKY'S ASSISTANT. THEN ROSEN BEGAN TEACHING CELLO AT THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY AT NORTHRIDGE. DURING THIS TIME, HE PLAYED WITH THE LOS ANGELES CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, UNDER NEVILLE MARRINER'S DIRECTION. DURING HIS SUMMERS HE ALSO PERFORMED AT THE MARLBORO FESTIVAL. (END OPT)

RECENTLY HE HAS BEGUN TO MAKE SOLO RECORDINGS. ONE ALBUM, SHORTLY TO BE RELEASED, FEATURES ROBERT SCHUMANN'S COMPLETE CELLO WORKS. IN HIS FIRST ALBUM, ROSEN PERFORMS THE COMPLETE MUSIC OF FREDERIC CHOPIN.

LET'S LISTEN NOW TO NATHANIEL ROSEN PLAY A BRIEF SECTION FROM THIS NEW RECORDING OF CHOPIN'S "POLONAISE BRILLIANTE."

TAPE: CUT 3 - POLONAISE BRILLIANTE (FADE WERE NEEDED) 6:10

VOICE: THE OTHER AMERICAN GOLD MEDAL WINNER -- VIOLINIST ELMAR OLIVEIRA, FROM BINGHAMPTON, NEW YORK, -- ALMOST DID NOT MAKE IT TO MOSCOW. ON TWO PREVIOUS OCCASIONS HE HAD BALKED AND DECIDED NOT TO ENTER THE COMPETITION. FORTUNATELY, THIS TIME HE WENT. TWO OTHER AMERICANS JOINED OLIVEIRA IN A FIELD OF SOME SIXTY-THREE ENTRANTS. OLIVEIRA WAS TO SHARE HIS TOP GOLD MEDAL WITH ILYIA GRUBERT, A VIOLINIST FROM THE SOVIET UNION.

IN COMMENTING ABOUT OLIVEIRA'S PERFORMANCE SOVIET CRITIC, PAVEL LUGOVSKOI CLAIMED THAT OLIVEIRA'S PERFORMANCE "HAD A MASTERLY

TRAIT, WHICH AS TCHAIKOVSKY SAID IS THE ESSENCE OF THE MAGIC INFLUENCE UPON THE PUBLIC."

MUSIC HAS ALWAYS BEEN A PART OF ELMAR OLIVERIA'S LIFE. HIS FATHER, A CARPENTER, MADE HIS FIRST VIOLIN, FOR HIM AND HIS BROTHER JOHN BECAME HIS FIRST TEACHER. JOHN, TODAY, IS A FIRST VIOLINIST WITH THE HOUSTON SYMPHONY. (OPT) ELMAR'S LATER SKILLS WERE PERFECTED UNDER HIS TEACHER, RAPHAEL BRONSTEIN, AT THE MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC IN NEW YORK CITY. CURRENTLY, MR. OLIVEIRA HAS BEEN CONCERTIZING THROUGH THE UNITED STATES, SOUTH AMERICA AND EUROPE, AND NO DOUBT THIS NEW ACHIEVEMENT WILL FURTHER HIS CAREER. (END OPT)

THE TCHAIKOVSKY COMPETITION IS NOT THE FIRST CONTEST THAT OLIVEIRA HAS WON. IN 1975, HE WAS A WINNER IN THE G.B. DEALEY COMPETITION IN DALLAS, TEXAS. FORTUNATELY, WE HAVE A RECORDING OF HIS PRIZE WINNING ROUND WHERE HE PERFORMED THE BRUCH" G MINOR VIOLIN CONCERTO." NOW FROM THAT WORK, LET'S LISTEN TO PART OF THE CLOSING MOVEMENT TO HEAR WHAT ELMAR OLIVEIRA SOUNDED LIKE THREE YEARS AGO.

TAPE: CUT 4 - BRUCH - VIOLIN CONCERTO IN G MINOR: LAST MOVT.
(FADE WHERE NEEDED) 6:26

VOICE: FOR AMERICANS, TWO GOLD MEDALS WON IN THE TCHAIKOVSKY INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION -- PERHAPS THE WORLD'S MOST ILLUSTRIOUS MUSIC CONTEST -- IS GREAT NEWS -- AND THE KIND OF VICTORY THAT WILL BE LONG-REMEMBERED BY PEOPLE ON THIS SIDE OF THE GLOBE.